

What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:  
receiving data in a receive buffer, said receive buffer comprising a plurality of buffers; and  
sending a hold command to a transmitting node currently sending data to hold transmission of additional data when a level of said data in said receive buffer reaches a high threshold level.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
controlling data flow into said receive buffer by filling successive ones of said plurality of buffers.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein each of said plurality of buffers has a capacity of about 1 kilobyte.
4. The method of claim 2, wherein said high threshold level is reached when a predetermined portion of the available capacity of all said plurality of buffers is utilized.
5. An apparatus comprising:  
circuitry capable of receiving data in a receive buffer, said receive buffer comprising a plurality of buffers, and sending a hold command to a transmitting node currently sending data to hold transmission of additional data when a level of said data in said receive buffer reaches a high threshold level.

6. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein said circuitry is further capable of controlling data flow into said receive buffer by filling successive ones of said plurality of buffers.

7. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein each of said plurality of buffers has a capacity of about 1 kilobyte.

8. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein said high threshold level is reached when a predetermined portion of the available capacity of all said plurality of buffers is utilized.

9. An article comprising:  
a receive buffer comprising a plurality of buffers; and  
buffer control circuitry capable of directing data flow into said plurality of buffers, said buffer control circuitry further capable of providing a signal in response to data in all of said plurality of buffers reaching a high threshold level.

10. The article of claim 10, further comprising:  
link layer circuitry responsive to said signal to provide a hold command to a transmitting node currently sending data to hold transmission of additional data.

11. The article of claim 10, wherein said buffer control circuitry is further capable of controlling data flow into said receive buffer by filling successive ones of said plurality of buffers.

12. The article of claim 10, wherein each of said plurality of buffers has a capacity of about 1 kilobyte.

13. A system comprising:

a circuit card comprising an integrated circuit, said circuit card capable of being coupled to a bus, said integrated circuit comprising a receive buffer comprising a plurality of buffers, and said integrated circuit further comprising buffer control circuitry capable of directing data flow into said plurality of buffers, said buffer control circuitry further capable of providing a signal in response to data in all of said plurality of buffers reaching a high threshold level.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein said integrated circuit further comprises:

link layer circuitry responsive to said signal to provide a hold command to a transmitting node currently sending data to hold transmission of additional data.

15. The system of claim 13, wherein said buffer control circuitry is further capable of controlling data flow into said receive buffer by filling successive ones of said plurality of buffers.

16. The system of claim 13, wherein each of said plurality of buffers has a capacity of about 1 kilobyte.

17. An article, comprising:

a storage medium having stored thereon instructions that when executed by a machine result in the following:

creating a plurality of predetermined storage locations in a receive buffer;  
directing storage of data in said plurality of predetermined storage locations; and  
sending a hold command to a transmitting node currently sending data to hold transmission of additional data when a level of said in said predetermined storage locations reaches a high threshold level.

18. The article of claim 17, wherein said storage medium having stored therein instructions that when executed by said machine also results in the following:

controlling data flow into said receive buffer by filling successive ones of said plurality of predetermined storage locations.

19. The article of claim 17, wherein each of said plurality of predetermined storage locations comprises a buffer.

20. The article of claim 19, wherein each said buffer has a capacity of about 1 kilobyte.